

**JORDAN D. CUNNINGHAM, ESQUIRE**

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

**DAUPHIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

**Presented in Special Session**

**Court of Common Pleas Dauphin County, Pennsylvania**

**Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

**March 8, 2023**

**TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE COURT**, our colleagues at the Bar, and friends we are here today to celebrate the life of our colleague and friend – Jordan Cunningham.

Jordan was born on May 9, 1951, in Wisconsin. He had one brother and one sister. He was a 1973 graduate of West Chester University. In 1976, he graduated from Dickinson School of Law. He is survived by his wife, Deb, 3 sons and 2 daughters.

Jordan began his legal career with Richard C. Fox. The firm then grew to be several lawyers and Jordan became a partner in the predecessor to Cunningham, Chernicoff & Warshawsky, P.C. in 1980. Jordan practiced for his entire career with Cunningham, Chernicoff & Warshawsky, P.C. and its predecessor firms. When he died, Jordan was the president of Cunningham, Chernicoff & Warshawsky, P.C. Of course, his office was unrivaled in the amount of paper and files it contained.

During Jordan's 46 years of law practice, he was in the unique position of his entire law practice being with the same law firm. He watched the firm grow to a successful firm. This growth was assisted greatly by Jordan's practice.

Jordan practiced in a wide area of the law as a commercial litigator. He was known as an expert advocate who practiced in many courts throughout the Commonwealth and elsewhere, at the trial court level and the appellate level. Jordan had multiple jury trials in which he was very successful. In one particular case early in his career, the jury came back and inquired of the Judge that because of Jordan's advocacy if they could award more than was requested in the Complaint. When we would see Jordan practice before juries, he would always engage them and successfully cause them to be on his side.

His advocacy and practice consisted of representing multiple clients in landlord/tenant cases. His practice concentrated in commercial law, subsidized housing, fair housing litigation as well as negotiation of commercial real estate and long-term living transactions.

Jordan became recognized as an expert witness in various cases on the issue of legal malpractice thereby representing other attorneys and becoming a lawyer's lawyer. Jordan also frequently lectured for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Widener School of Law and the National Business Institute on issues including litigation, divorce, real property law, landlord/tenant law, fair housing law and legal ethics. While he was often involved in causing evictions of tenants at various housing complexes, organizations such as the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, Pennsylvania Multi-Family Assets Managers Association and the New Jersey Affordable Housing Management Association would ask him to lecture, recognizing Jordan's fairness.

Many of Jordan's friends in the Bar were often those against whom he would advocate, including many attorneys at Legal Services.

Jordan was known throughout the office as one who liked to have a good time. While he lived to practice law, he also remembered there was a life outside the practice of law. Jordan had five children. He spent a great deal of time with his children and traveled often with his wife. His favorite undertakings were sailing his boat, which had actually belonged to his father, and spending time with his children.

It was easy to say that Jordan was one of those lawyers who enjoyed the practice of law. While it can be a difficult undertaking to practice law, Jordan lived to practice law and be part of his family. He was always willing to help others, including attorneys on the other side. He would often take on underdog clients as he had a strong sense of justice.

Jordan remembered his obligation to the Bar and was a member of different Bar Association groups. He took part in various seminars in an effort to spread the practice of law among all. The practice was always done in an honorable manner and with civility to his colleagues. While those of us in the office may not have always agreed with some of his views, we could always have civil discussions with him.

There are many other things about Jordan's life that could be shared, including his sense of humor. Jordan enjoyed being himself and was outgoing. Perhaps the best tribute is that after his death, many clients that called made it a point to say how able his assistance to them was and what a great person he was to them and others. After his death, his clients all told us that he was honorable and well liked.


**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Bar, the Court and the community mourn the death of Jordan D. Cunningham and extend to his wife, Debora

Cunningham, his family members and friends, our deepest sympathy. We recognize the loss to the Bar.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this Memorial Resolution be placed on the record of the Dauphin County Courts and the Dauphin County Bar Association, that the original be filed in the Office of the Prothonotary of Dauphin County, and that copies be transmitted to his family.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert E. Chernicoff

  
Bruce J. Warshawsky

SECONDING REMARKS ON THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION  
FOR JORDAN D. CUNNINGHAM, ESQ.-MARCH 8, 2023  
BRUCE WARSHAWSKY

IT IS MY HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO SECOND BOB'S RESOLUTION.

JORDAN WAS A MENTOR---EASY TO TALK WITH---FULL OF LEGAL KNOWLEDGE, PROCEDURAL INSIGHTS AND HIS UNIQUE TAKE ON THE MANY JUDGES BEFORE WHOM HE HAD PRACTICED—PRESENT COMPANY EXCEPTED.....

AND HE WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO SHARE WITH YOUNGER LAWYERS---MAKING THE COMPLEX SIMPLE---AND DOING IT WITH HIS RAUCOUS SENSE OF HUMOR AND INFECTIOUS LAUGH.

HE SURELY WAS "OLD SCHOOL", TAKING ARDUOUS NOTES, FILLING UP YELLOW LEGAL PADS TO DRAFT PLEADINGS, MOTIONS, BRIEFS AND CORRESPONDENCE. MOST EVERY DAY (UNTIL THE PANDEMIC AT LEAST), HE COULD BE FOUND IN HIS OFFICE ADVISING CLIENTS ON THE TELEPHONE (WHEN HE WASN'T ON THE ROAD VISITING NEARLY EVERY MDJ OFFICE EAST OF THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER) WITH A WHITE SHIRT (WHICH, BY THE END OF THE DAY WAS QUITE RUMPLED) AND TIE, USUALLY ALREADY LOOSE AROUND HIS NECK BY MID-MORNING.

JORDAN UNDERSTOOD PEOPLE AND THOUGHTFULLY ANTICIPATED THE EFFECT HIS ACTIONS HAD ON OTHERS—A QUALITY OFTEN IN SHORT SUPPLY IN OUR PROFESSION.

FINALLY, JORDAN ENJOYED THE COLLEGIALLY OF THE DAUPHIN COUNTY BAR IMMENSELY. I AM SURE HE IS SMILING DOWN ON ALL OF US AS WE REMEMBER HIM TODAY.